

History and Culture

Water Bowls and the Standing Figure of Ksitigarbha, Chisen-in Temple (cultural property of Chuo City)

1-5-13 Nihonbashi-Kayabacho



Chisen-in Temple enshrines Bhaiṣajyaguru as principal image and has gathered earnest faith from the people of Edo as the *yakushi* (healing Buddha) of Kayabacho. The pair of water bowls were made by Edo caster Kamaya Shichiemon and were dedicated to the temple from Sakamotocho (the present Nihonbashi-Kayabacho). Also the bronze standing figure of Ksitigarbha, erected in 1927, was casted for the souls of the fish market people who had fallen victim of the Great Kanto Earthquake. Sculptor Tobarī Kogan was involved in the creation of this modern-looking Buddhist statue.

Dwelling Site of Kikaku (Tokyo Cultural Property)

1-6-10 Nihonbashi-Kayabacho



Enomoto (later Takarai) Kikaku was a haiku poet of the Edo period. He became the disciple of Matsuo Basho at a young age and made a number of scintillating great haiku. As a master of everyday life, he resided near Yakushido Temple in Minami-Kayabacho and garnered many disciples.

Cultural properties Monuments

Newel Posts of Kaiunbashi Bridge (cultural property of Chuo City)

Off 3 Nihonbashi-Kabutocho /
Off 1-20 Nihonbashi



The newel posts of Kaiunbashi Bridge, a Western style stone-arch bridge rebuilt in 1875. The bridge used to span the former canal that used to exist under the present Shuto Expressway Inner Circular Route, and was one of the scenic spots along with the quasi-Western style architecture of First National Bank that stood at the foot of the bridge. The newels commemorate and represent Tokyo in the Meiji era at times of civilization and enlightenment.

Birthplace of Bank

4-3 Nihonbashi-Kabutocho



Under the National Bank Act of 1872, many national banks (public sector banks in accordance with the Act) were established in the Meiji era. Here used to stand "First National Bank", Japan's first modern bank founded by the joint investment by Mitsui-gumi and Ono-gumi. The four-story, quasi-Western style architecture (which combined Japanese and Western styles) of the First National Bank building was designed and constructed by Shimizu Kisuke II and became the new scenic spot of Tokyo in the Meiji era. The changes that the bank building went through is introduced on the wall of Kabutocho Branch, Mizuho Bank.

Birthplace of Shoemaking Industry

3-2-10 Irifune



Former Sakura clansman Nishimura Katsuro opened Japan's first Western-style shoemaking factory "Isekatsu Zokajo" (the predecessor of the present Regal Corporation) at Irifunecho 5 (now Irifune 3) in 1870. The factory manufactured military shoes as well as catered to the needs of leather shoes at the foreign settlement in Tsukiji; this is the point of origin of Japan's shoemaking industry.

Teppozu Inari Jinja Shrine (cultural property of Chuo City)

1-6-7 Minato



Teppozu Inari Jinja Shrine houses many shrine architecture that were rebuilt after the Great Kanto Earthquake. The main building was constructed in *Gongen-zukuri* style (a style that holds multiple worship halls) in 1935; the *kagura-den* (music and dance hall), built in 1937, as well as the *sessha* (smaller shrine) and *chozuya* (hand-purifying fountain) which have gable roofs, lend a feeling to the view of the site.